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Kaweah.

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Alice Meussdorffer Dahlia Gardens

P.O. Adress—487 Hanover Street, San FRANCISCO

NURSERY: San Mateo County



Partial View of my Dahlia Garden, with Kaweah in the Foreground

Greetings to all my friends, the Dahlia Lovers. In presenting my 1933 Catalog to you, I am very happy to tell you of the great success I had with my dahlias in 1932; and the pleasure given to all who saw my beautiful originations on display; and where I again carried off so many honors. "Kaweah" again reigned supreme; my blooms were larger and more wonderful than ever, attaining a size of 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches without forcing, to the amazement of all who saw it. In the Dahlia Society of California Show, Kaweah won two First Prizes, one for the largest and Most Perfect Dahlia in the Show, and for The Best Dahlia of California Origin. In the San Leandro Flower Festival, the Largest Flower Show in the West, Kaweah won three First Prizes, for the Largest, Perfect Dahlia in the Show, for the Best Dahlia and for the Best Twelve, truly outstanding. In the Dahlia Society of Southern California Show, Kaweah won First Prize for the Largest and most Perfect Dahlia in the Show; they were sent down by airplane.

But Kaweah was not alone in sharing honors, my stunning basket of Rosalin Keep, 25 blooms won First Prize and the admiration of all at the Show, it was declared to be a knockout. My other displays were so fine that I was awarded the Gold Medal of the American Dahlia Society for the Most Meritorious and Outstanding Display.

My dahlias won three Gold Medals this year; Dahlia Society of California Gold Medal on Kaweah for the Largest and Most Perfect Dahlia in the Show. Alice Meussdorffer won First Prize again for the Best Basket of 15 dahlias. I again won First Prize at our California State Fair in Sacramento for The Best Display of Dahlias, when I displayed again for San Mateo County, which produces an \$8,000,000.00 Annual Bouquet of Cut Flowers; my dahlias are grown in San Mateo County. All the other First Prizes I won are enumerated in another part of this catalog.

In 1934 I will introduce some marvelous New Varieties of my own Originations; my stock was too limited to introduce them this year. I am always very glad to hear how my dahlias grew for my friends and customers, and always welcome letters asking for advice.

With Best Wishes for 1933,

Sincerely,

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER



This is "KAWEAH"

most talked of Dahlia of the Age. **Kaweah** was the sensation of all the Shows where exhibited; and conceded by Growers, Originators and all who saw it, to be the Largest, Greatest and most wonderful Dahlia they had ever seen. One grower of note said of it; "No other dahlia has a chance in the largest flower class when Kaweah is exhibited." This tremendously large dahlia is named for one of our towering mountain peaks in the High Sierras in California from whose summit, one of the most superb views is to be had that I have ever seen.

Kaweah has everything; huge size, splendid long, strong straight stem, wonderfully rich color, fine form and substance, and splendid keeping qualities. The color is a rich fuchsia rose, center of petals shading to a rich velvety cardinal towards the center of the flowers, with a reverse of orchids and lavenders. First flowers have been $13\frac{1}{2}$ to $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches without forcing, with great depth; late flowers have been 10 to 12 inches.

These tremendous blooms are held perfectly erect on very long, extra strong, stiff, straight stems, 18 to 24 inches to first lateral; and as one Grower lists it; "**Kaweah** is one of the big ones, which does not sacrifice color or form to size. It is quite a compliment to any gigantic dahlia to call it graceful, but this one easily merits that compliment." They require very little disbudding, one lateral being sufficient. Bushes grow to a height of 5 feet; I have had as many as four enormous flowers and even eight blooming on one bush at the same time, and many large buds ready to open.

Mr. Derrill W. Hart of the American Home of New York, says "**Kaweah** is a magnificent Exhibition Dahlia, and a fine grower in the garden, my later flowers were even better than the first ones."

Mr. Warwick S. Carpenter's 1931 and 1932 Sunkist Roll of Honor.

Mr. Carpenter (1932) says: "Unquestionably one of the Most Sensational Dahlia Introductions of recent years, due both to its size, and also to its general character. For two years it has been the Largest Dahlia at the Show of the Dahlia Society of California. In a room full of Dahlias, it arrests the eye by size, shape and bearing."

Due to the many requests for plants last year, I grew them and shipped them with great success, even to the Atlantic Coast, where they arrived in excellent condition, due to my method of packing and shipping which insures their arrival in the shortest possible time, albeit it incurs an extra expense, which necessitates my charging 25 cents additional to the cost of the plant.

KAWEAH

The World's Largest and Most Perfect Dahlia
 $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches, largest grown in California.
 $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches in Delaware. Eastern and Western
 Roll of Honor Dahlia.

Seven First Prizes for Largest Perfect Dahlia; 1 First Prize for Best Color in 1931. Three First Prizes for Largest Perfect Dahlia in 3 Shows, 1 First for Best Dahlia, 1 First for Best Dahlia of California Origin, 1 First for Best Basket of 12 Dahlias, 1 Variety, in 1932. The

Kaweah— $13\frac{1}{2}$ to $16\frac{1}{2}$ Inches



There Are Many Like These Kaweah in the Garden

We do not substitute unless requested to do so, but would suggest your naming a second choice.

Abbreviations: New Dahlia Classification—F. D., Formal Decorative; I. D., Informal Decorative; S. C., Semi-Cactus; P., Peony-flowered.

Canadian Customers Please Note

In accordance with the ruling governing the importation of Nursery Stock from the United States into Canada, it will be necessary to obtain a permit from the Secretary of the Destructive Insect and Pest Act Advisory Board, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and file same with the Collector of Customs, before shipment can be cleared.

This ruling must be complied with in order to make delivery, and we ask you in the event of an order, to secure this permit, advising us of the number of same, that we may mark it on the outside wrapper.

Be sure to write name and address very plainly in each letter and send to

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER DAHLIA GARDENS

487 Hanover Street, San Francisco, California

KAWEAH PLANTS

My plants are all made from base cuttings, never more than four or five from one root, which insures strong sturdy plants, like the one in the accompanying illustration. Having such a large stock of roots, I can afford this. I had as fine, large flowers from the plants as from the roots; in fact, some of my largest ones were from plants.

KAWEAH Roots—\$15.00

Plants—\$7.50 Net. 25c extra for shipping. Plants are shipped from May 15th to June 15th.

Please Read Before Ordering

Order Early—Do not delay ordering until planting time, as many varieties will be sold out.

Terms—Remittance must accompany each order. All orders are delivered carefully packed, by insured Parcel Post.

We pay postage on all retail orders over \$3.00. If less than \$3.00 add 25c for postage. Dahlia Roots sent to cold climates before April 1st, will be packed against freezing, but sent at Customer's risk. Shipments made about April 10th unless otherwise specified.

We Guarantee—All roots true to name, and color, and to be in growing condition when received, after which our responsibility ceases. Please notify us at once if anything is unsatisfactory, when received, or any root does not start to grow after being planted a reasonable time. No replacement unless roots are returned within four weeks after receiving.



Alice Meussdorffer

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER—Winner of American Dahlia Society Medal in 1931

One of my finest 1931 Introductions, and conceded by all who saw it to be the most beautiful dahlia they had ever seen. First Prize for Best Basket of 15 Dahlias in 1932, as well as in 1931.

For further description page 6.

My Dahlia Originations

***ALICE MEUSSDORFFER**—Illustrated on Page 5. (One of my finest 1931 Introductions.) I. D. This large, refined and exquisitely beautiful dahlia, has been universally admired, and conceded by everyone who saw it, to be the most beautiful dahlia they had ever seen. It won First Prize for the Best Basket of 15 of one Variety at the Show of the Dahlia Society of California in 1931 and 1932. The color is a pure pinkish orchid, without a trace of any other color. The flowers often measure 10 inches and over, and are held perfectly erect on top of a long, wiry straight stem; the foliage is very attractive, lace-like but leathery; a prolific bloomer; the tall bushes, with the masses of blossoms are most attractive in the garden. It is my latest bloomer and holds its center to the end of the season. It did well in the East. Roots only, \$15.00

***CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER**—F. D. (One of my finest 1930 Introductions.) First Prize Winner 1930 Show for Best Basket of 15 Dahlias. This immense and exquisitely beautiful dahlia of great depth and fine form is named for my dear Mother. The center is a creamy yellow shading to a bronzy salmon pink, suffusing the immense blooms with a warm glow. The stems are very long and strong, holding the 10 inch blooms well above a tall strong bush; a prolific bloomer, flower holding center to the end of the season. Roots only, \$5.00.

***DE ETTE**—My 1930 Introduction. Large century Single. Bronzy yellow, crimson ring.\$.75

***FLAMENCA**—S. C. One of my 1929 Introductions. Winner of First Prize for Best Three Year Old Seedling at San Leandro Show. A rich warm, velvety ripe peach color. The center unopened, and reverse of petals, eosine pink, the opened petals empire yellow with coral pink. The petals twist showing the eosine pink reverse, which casts a warm glow over the entire flower. Flowers have great depth, large blossoms, strong stems and tall bushes. Roots, \$2.00.

***GLADYS YOUNG**—I. D. Illustrated on Page 7. (One of my finest 1931 Introductions.) This immense gloriously beautiful, clear canary yellow of great depth and fine form, is named for one of our sweetest San Francisco singers. Winner of First Prize for Best Yellow every year. It was the Outstanding Dahlia in a Delaware Growers garden and also in New York. The flowers are huge, 10 to 12 inches in Diameter and 6 to 8 inches in depth, and are held perfectly erect on long, strong, stiff stems, and grow well out of the medium tall bushes; a prolific bloomer, attracting universal attention and admiration. Roots only, \$10.00

***INGOMAR**—S. C. (One of my finest 1932 Introductions). This immense 12 inch red, almost scarlet dahlia, always attracts universal attention; not only on account of its fine form, and marvelous color, but for its erect carriage on absolutely strong, stiff, straight stems. First flowers face upwards, and have great depth, later flowers face one; the bushes are medium tall with us and are prolific bloomers. Roots only, \$10.00.

***JOHN MEUSSDORFFER**—F. D. (My Finest 1928 Introduction.) Western Roll of Honor Dahlia. A great Prize Winner. It is named for my father, a California Pioneer, and a great lover of flowers, who planned the beautiful grounds in which I raise my dahlias. It is stunning, startling, large dahlia, of a glorious vivid, brilliant, glowing scarlet. Stems are straight and strong, holding the immense flowers perfectly erect. It attracted so much attention in Bronx Park, New York, that people wrote me telling how much they admired it. The bush of this sensational dahlia is a medium height here; it grew 5 feet tall in the East, and is a prolific bloomer. Roots only \$2.00.

***KAWEAH**—World's Largest Perfect Dahlia. Honor Roll Dahlia. Winner of 8 First Prizes in 7 Shows in 1931. 6 First Prizes in 3 Western Shows where it was entered in competition. Grown to 16½ inches in diameter. Color is a rich fuchsia rose, with deep velvety cardinal shading towards the center of the flowers. Full description on Page 3. Roots \$15.00. Plants \$7.50 Net.

***LARRY**—Pompon. My 1929 Introduction. Golden amber, cinnamon center.\$.50

***California Origin**



Gladys Young

GLADYS YOUNG—Marvelous 1931 Introduction

Eleven inches. Outstanding Dahlia in Eastern Grower's Gardens. Winner of First Prize for Best Yellow Dahlia every year.
For further description page 6.

* LORRAINE —Pompon. My 1932 Introduction. Lovely amber, with old rose tips and center; long strong stems, very prolific bloomer, popular cut flower for florists	\$ 1.00
* LYDIA —Pompon. My 1928 Introduction. Delicate pinkish orchid	\$.50
* MAY DEARBORN SCHWAB —I. D. Winner of the American Home Achievement Medal in 1928. Winner of many First Prizes. A beautiful dahlia of great size and depth; color is chinese violet or bluish purple. Bushes are tall and stems are long and very strong. Roots	\$ 2.50
* MOONBEAM —F. D. Winner of the Achievement Medal of the American Home. Honor Roll Dahlia. Mr. Warwick Carpenter describes it as follows: "The pale yellow beams of an August moon are in the translucent petals of this very interesting and meritorious flower. Massive, easily attaining 10 inches in diameter. The ground is a canary yellow, becoming lighter toward the edges. Erect carriage on a good stem; bushes are about four feet high, with lace-like foliage. The blooms last a long time on the bush. Roots	\$ 10.00
* REYNOLD —F. D. (My finest 1930 Introduction) This is a strikingly beautiful dahlia, with its unusually lovely coloring, attracting universal attention and admiration, wherever exhibited and in the garden. The color is strawberry red, petals centers splashed bright carmine or spectrum red, shading to strawberry, each petal is outlined with creamy yellow; outer petals carmine shading to pink; reverse of petals cream. Long straight stems, medium tall bushes. Flowers average 9 to 10 inches and have great depth. Winner of Silver Medal of Dahlia Society of California 1929 for Best Three Year Seedling. Roots	\$ 5.00
* ROSALIND KEEP —F. D. (Illustrated on page 9) Winner of First Prize in the San Francisco Garden Club Show in 1931. First Prize at Dahlia Society of California 1932 Show, for Best Basket of 25 blooms one variety; which was conceded to be the most exquisitely beautiful basket of dahlias in the Show. This large 10 inches and over, exquisitely, beautiful, clear, delicate pure pink dahlia with white center, and water-lily form, must be seen to be able to appreciate its exquisite beauty. It is universally admired, not only on account of its sheer beauty, but on account of its erect carriage on long straight stems. It is the best keeper when cut, never needs renewing at the shows, and keeps a week in the house; very popular with florists; a prolific bloomer; the first to bloom and a very fast grower; bushes are five feet tall and are a mass of blossoms continually until late in the season. Roots	\$ 10.00
* ROSEMARIE —My 1929 Introduction. Pompon. Bright rosy carmine, with cream reverse, long stems, and a very prolific bloomer.	\$.50
* SNOW WHITE — F. D. One of my 1929 Introductions. A very large, ivory white, beautiful dahlia of great depth and substance, having long strong straight stems, holding the large blooms well above the strong growing bush. From Salem, Ore.: "Your dahlia, Snow White was a beauty, grew over 8 feet tall, and a mass of blossoms on good stems. Roots	\$ 1.00
* STEPHEN MATHER —I. D. (One of my 1931 Introductions.) This immense dahlia of unusual coloring and great strength is named for our beloved, deceased Director of National Parks, a great man, who did much for this and future generations, in the Conservation of our National Parks. The color of this huge dahlia, which easily measures 10 inches and over, is a brownish old rose, that is the nearest I can get to it. The flowers are held perfectly erect on splendid long strong stems, high above a very attractive lacelike foliage, on a tall growing bush. Roots	\$ 7.50
* TEMELPA —F. D. (One of my 1928 Introductions.) A wonderful dahlia; color, center, ox-blood red, shading to a carmine and corinthian red, with reverse of daphne red; also having flowers tipped white. Stems are straight and strong, flowers growing on top of it like a rose; good keeper as a cut flower or on the bush; medium tall growing bush. Roots	\$ 1.50

*California Origin



Rosalind Keep

ROSALIND KEEP—1932 Introduction

Winner of First Prize for Best Dahlia in San Francisco Garden Club Show
10 to 12 inches. Exquisitely beautiful, clear pure, pink, white center,
water-lily form. Winner of First Prize for Best Basket of 25 Dahlias in
1932 Show, a stunning basket. For further description page 8

***TRISTAN**—F. D. (One of my 1928 Introductions.) This immense rich, glowing, dark velvety red flower of fine form, is held perfectly erect on a very strong stiff stem, on sturdy bushes. Always attracts attention. Roots. \$ 1.50

GOOD VARIETIES OF OTHER GROWERS

* AL KORAN —F. D.	Large bright yellow, deepening to amber, long wavy petals.	\$.50
* AMBASSADOR —St. C.	Large soft yellow and salmon, strong stiff stems. My stock is of the original \$50.00 Prize Winning stock. Perfect centers	\$.75
* AMUN RA —A	stunning copper and orange scarlet reverse, strong stems.	\$.50
* BARBARA REDFERN —Large old rose and gold. I. D.	Good stiff stem.	\$ 1.00
* DONNA CALIFORNIA —I. D.	Deep rose pink, suffused with lavender	\$ 3.50
EDNA FERBER —S. C.	One of the finest. Glistening coral, shading to old gold.	\$ 1.00
* ELINOR VANDERVEER —F. D.	A Prize winning magnificent rose pink dahlia	\$.50
* FLAMING METEOR —I. D.	Large orange scarlet, fine form. Prize Winner.	\$.75
* GORGEOUS —P.	Immense, strong stemmed yellow, splashed scarlet dahlia.	\$.50
HALVELLA —F. D.	A most charming rose pink, of large size, on strong stems	\$.75
* ISLAM PATROL — S. C.	A brilliant red dahlia, tipped gold, long stiff stems.	\$ 1.50
JANE COWL —I. D.	A great prize winner. Buff, salmon and orange.	\$ 1.00
* MISSION BELL —I. D.	Bright pink with a touch of magenta. A beautiful flower of large size good stems and good centers. Prize winner.	\$ 1.50
* MRS. ALFRED B. SEAL —I. D.	An immense old rose of medium tone, having great depth and excellent stems. Achievement Winner in 1928.	\$ 2.50
* MRS. ELEANOR MARTIN —I. D.	Large flower, color, mulberry, suffused gold.	\$.75
* NEW GLORY —S. C.	Striking ox-blood red, tips of petals white	\$ 1.00
* QUEEN OF THE GARDEN BEAUTIFUL —I. D.	Immense primrose yellow, good stem.	\$ 1.00
* RICHELIEU —F. D.	Large flower of rich, deep velvety red, strong stems.	\$ 1.00
* SUNSET TROPHY —F. D.	A beautiful primrose yellow dahlia of immense size and fine form, having full centers, long strong stems, prolific bloomer. Winner of many First Prizes.	\$ 7.50
TREASURE ISLAND —F. D.	Apricot, gold and rose. Large flowers, good stems.	\$ 1.50
WILLIAM HOGAN —F. D.	Garnet red, heavily tipped white; good stem.	\$ 2.00

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

HERALD —Large, rosy pink, white collar.	\$.50
GEANT De LYON —Large velvety maroon, with a long white collar.	\$.75

MINIATURE DAHLIAS

LITTLE JEWEL —Dec. Clear delicate pink. One of the daintiest.	\$.50
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POMPON DAHLIAS

Pompons are the gems of the dahlia family, producing very small compact flowers, like diminutive show dahlias. They are invaluable for cut flowers, owing to their good keeping qualities.

* BANTAM —Best red for cutting; small perfect form; extra long stems.	\$.50
* BOSSY —New 1931 (Lengeman) Light phlox purple, darker center, long stems.	\$.50
DAISY —Salmon rose, long stems, very popular.	\$.50
DARKEST OF ALL —Maroon, almost black	\$.75
DEEDEE —A perfectly formed pure lavender, dainty and small	\$.50
GIRLIE —Lilac pink, long stem, good for cutting.	\$.35
* HELEN ANITA —Small lavender, white center, very pretty, long stems.	\$.50
IDEAL —Pure yellow, long stems, good for cutting.	\$.35
JOHNNY —Very dark red, one of the smallest and most perfect	\$.35
* LARRY —My 1929 Introduction—Golden amber, pinkish cinnamon center	\$.50

LILIAS or LILAC—Beautiful, yellow ground, heavily suffused with pink.	\$.50
LITTLE BEESWING—Golden yellow, tipped cherry fine form.	\$.50
*LITTLE DAVID—One of the best, burnt orange. Prolific bloomer.	\$.35
*LORRAINE—My 1932 Introduction. Lovely amber with old rose tips and center, long stems, very prolific bloomer, popular cut flower for florists.	\$ 1.00
*LYDIA—My 1928 Introduction. Delicate pinkish orchid.	\$.50
MARIETTA—Deep rosy crimson.	\$.50
NELLIE FRASER—Light ground, edged and tipped with rose.	\$.35
REGULUS (Little Dorritt)—Beautiful cerise purple; small perfect form.	\$.50
ROSEA—Charming variety of bluish lilac. Small and prolific bloomer.	\$.50
*ROSEMARIE—My 1929 Introduction. Bright rosy carmine, with cream reverse, long stems, and a very prolific bloomer.	\$.50
SUNSET—Clear Orange.	\$.35
TOMMY KEITH—Crimson, tipped white.	\$.50
YELLOW GEM—Pure yellow, excellent flower for cutting.	\$.35

DAHLIA COLLECTIONS

I am offering this season special Collections, made up of a fine assortment of twelve of my most popular varieties; giving an opportunity of securing a choice collection at a greatly reduced cost. These collections are carefully balanced as to color, and are made up of large dahlias only; one or more of my own originations included in each collection, all labeled and of varieties that can be found in this catalog. We prepay all postage. These collections are: \$5.00; \$10.00; \$15.00; \$25.00.

POMPON COLLECTIONS—12 different varieties, named \$3.50 and \$4.50.

Join the **American Dahlia Society**. A quarterly Bulletin is issued devoted to Dahlia information. Membership—\$2.00 a year payable to Mr. Louis Alling, 251 Court Street, West Haven, Conn.

We grow many dahlia varieties that are not listed, as stock is limited, should you wish some you do not see in our catalog, write us, we may be able to supply you.

*California Origin



CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER



PRIZES WON IN 1932

The Gold Medal of the AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY for the Most Meritorious and Outstanding Display, the Dahlia Society of California Show in San Francisco

Gold Medal of the Dahlia Society of California, for the Largest and Most Perfect Dahlia, in the Dahlia Society of California Show. (Kaweah)

First Prize—Best Bloom of Dahlia originated in California (Kaweah)

First Prize—Best Basket of 25 Blooms or more, 1 Variety. (Rosalind Keep)

Gold Medal—American Dahlia Society

First Prize—Best Basket of 15 Blooms, 1 Variety (Alice Meussdorffer.)

First Prize—Best Basket of Large Dahlias in Show

First Prize—Best 10 Blooms of California origin in one receptacle.

First Prize—Best Basket Miniature Dahlias. (Luana) Undisseminated.

CALIFORNIA FLOWER FESTIVAL AT SAN LEANDRO

First Prize—Largest Perfect Dahlia in Show (Kaweah).

First Prize—Best Dahlia in Show. (Kaweah.)

First Prize—Best Basket of 12 Dahlias (Kaweah.)

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

First Prize—Largest Most Perfect Dahlia in Show (Kaweah)

CALIFORNIA STATE FAIR AT SACRAMENTO

First Prize—Best Display of Dahlias—50 varieties



Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers.

Member of the American Dahlia Society.

Member of the Dahlia Society of California.

First Prize—Best Display in Sacramento State Fair, 1931 and 1932



Certificate of Merit
San Mateo County Display



Gold Medal—Dahlia Society of California